



**ISLE OF WIGHT
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**THE
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
INCLUDING THE
REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH
INSPECTORS
FOR THE YEAR 1966**



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THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS
FOR THE YEAR 1966

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A N N U A L R E P O R T
on the
HEALTH OF THE RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT
of the
ISLE OF WIGHT

County Hall,
Newport,
Isle of Wight

Tel: Newport 2261

To the Members of the Isle of Wight Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Miss Brimacombe and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the health of the District for the year 1966.

The Birth Rate fell from 14.1 to 13.6

The Stillbirth rate rose fractionally from 11.2 to 11.5

The Death Rate rose from 14.9 to 15.8

The Infantile Mortality Rate rose from 11.3 to 42.6

Deaths from all forms of cancer totalled 55 (1965- 61, 1964- 55)

Deaths from cancer of the lung and bronchus fell from 18 to 10 cases.

No deaths occurred from pulmonary tuberculosis.

No cases of diphtheria, poliomyelitis or food poisoning were notified.

SOME MAJOR CAUSES OF DEATH: CONTROL AND DIAGNOSIS.

Disease of the coronary arteries of the heart and vascular accidents within the skull account for a high proportion of the annual deaths. (Sixty-two of the former and 54 of the latter represented a total of 38.7% of all deaths within the District for the year 1966.)

About twenty per cent of patients with coronary artery disease die suddenly without warning and others have such severe damage to the heart that they die in a few hours. In most persons who survive the first few hours of the illness the outlook is good:

Some Major Causes of Death: Control and Diagnosis (continued)

most patients make a complete recovery from a coronary thrombosis and are able to return to their work in a few months.

Among the many factors believed to be concerned with this disease are some that can readily be controlled. Obvious ones are: Obesity, Cigarette smoking, Diabetes and Hypertension. The last two conditions may produce no symptoms but may be detected by proper routine examination.

Much mild undiagnosed diabetes in the community can be uncovered by simple urine testing, and similarly the early detection and prompt treatment of high blood pressure may reduce inimical factors acting on the coronary vessels, threatening life.

BRONCHITIS and CIGARETTE SMOKING

In this Island we are lucky in at least one respect. Unlike cities, the air that we breathe is pure, and while we remain in the open there is no chance of picking up germs. However, air bacteria and high concentrations of minute droplets of germs containing moisture are present in all crowded spaces and in 'buses. It is a sound policy to avoid crowded places during the winter months when coughs and colds abound.

Chronic bronchitis - "the English disease" is one of the most disabling diseases of this country. It is the commonest reason for consulting the medical practitioner and the third most frequent cause of death in men over thirty.

It may be not far from the truth to say that during the winter at any evening doctor's surgery one out of every twenty patients is a chronic chest sufferer.

One cannot but re-emphasise too strongly the close connection with bronchitis and cigarette smoking.

Whatever benefits the Country may derive in taxes from tobacco must surely be offset against the subsequent charges incurred by the cigarette smoker in his calls upon the National Health Service for treatment and the loss of man-hours and productivity from disabling bronchitis.

THE CARE OF YOUNG CHILDREN

i. Security of drugs and medicines

The death of young children from prescribed medicines occurs in circumstances which cause distress and anguish to both parents and doctors. New drugs are being continually introduced but the main dangers remain the same - aspirin, barbiturates, caustic alkalis, disinfectants, iron, digitalis, camphor and paraffin. It is helpful if drug tablets are only dispensed in screw-capped containers.

THE CARE OF YOUNG CHILDREN

i. Security of drugs and medicines (continued)

In the home drugs should be kept in a locked cupboard and all cleaning materials in a closed cupboard well beyond the reach of the toddler.

It is a common and dangerous practice to store paraffin or bleaching solutions in lemonade bottles or other bottles normally containing a familiar drink.

Close supervision is especially necessary where living conditions are poor, overcrowded and where the standards of maternal care and family discipline are low. In such families the Health Visitor, in her role of health educator plays a most important role.

ii. Peanuts: the danger to Infants.

I feel that attention should be drawn to the risks of giving very young children peanuts. From time to time cases occur in which a child in the region of three years of age has been fed peanuts, choked a little and a cough developed from that time onwards.

Under these circumstances a child can inhale a peanut into the windpipe and its finer ramifications. This will create bronchitis and may proceed to partial collapse of the lung and pneumonia.

Peanuts are the common offenders but nuts from chocolate are sometimes responsible.

iii. Accidents in the Home

In the first year of life there are now more deaths from accidents than from any other cause, and for each fatal accident there must be large numbers about which nothing is heard. The first-year deaths are mainly due to inhalation of food or accidental suffocation.

Children are most liable to be burned in the region of the fire-place, early morning and evening during the winter being the commonest times. A high preponderance of these tragedies occur in particular on Sunday mornings when the parents are enjoying a "lie-in".

Girls are at a far greater risk than boys because they usually wear night-dresses. It is most important therefore that all night-dresses should be replaced by pyjamas made of non-flammable material such as pure nylon or wool which do not flare-up when they burn.

NOISE: FURTHER COMMENT.

I have from time to time expressed my concern in respect of the growing nuisance from noise. Well people are strangely indifferent to the various degrees of distress suffered by many people young and old alike when exposed to noise at various levels. Finger tapping, dripping taps, etc. may prove unbearable to those whose threshold to sound irritation is low.

It used to be possible to enjoy the peace and quiet of the countryside but even that is drifting away. In summer, instead of bird-song and the hum of insects one's ears are frequently assailed by the noise of low-flying aircraft, the neighbour with a motor-mower, electric hedge clippers, mechanised garden machines of great variety, to say nothing of the ubiquitous portable transistor radio.

It is a sad state of affairs that progress can only be accompanied by an increase of noise.

LONELINESS IN OLD AGE.

A growing problem in the Rural District is loneliness and a feeling of isolation in the aged. This can happen even in the case of individuals who have lived in the district all their lives especially when one of a married couple dies. It is harder in a way among those who have retired to the Island, forgetting that, as age advances, it is much more difficult to have new friends. This loneliness can all too easily lead to various degrees of depression which can probably truly be described as the most common mental disorder of the elderly.

Those who are growing old must adjust to a changing way of life.

As people grow older they tend to turn in upon themselves and have fewer contacts with others. When in addition they have such handicaps as deafness and/or failing sight it is not surprising that they become surly, hostile and suspicious, and minor forms of beliefs, of persecutions and hallucinations may well lead to them needing some degree of psychiatric care.

NEW HOUSING - A HEALTH HAZARD ?

It is astonishing the speed with which many newly-constructed houses and bungalows are occupied after completion. No time is allowed for drying out and one wonders to what extent the occupants of the brand new properties are affected by the inevitable dampness that surrounds them, especially where 'chesty' children, children prone to rheumatism and elderly persons with chronic bronchitis and arthritis are involved.

A survey of the health of persons in new dwellings would be worthwhile and perhaps throw new light on the weighing of medically recommended reasons for rehousing.

"FACTORY FARMING": DISPOSAL OF ANIMAL WASTE - A PERSISTENT
NUISANCE.

Many people are unable to enjoy their own property because of continued development of intensive poultry and cattle rearing. This creates a so far insoluble public health and planning problem.

Apparently on agricultural holdings, erection of buildings of less than 5,000 square feet is generally permitted without planning permission and in many cases it is hard to understand why this is so. Over the years, by and large, farmers have not abused this privilege but the situation now is quite different where small areas of land adjoining residential properties containing battery or broiler houses with the ever attendant risk of nuisance to neighbours.

An especially severe nuisance and cause for complaint is the arrangements for waste disposal from animals and poultry reared in an intensive way. In the case of pig manure, while it remains undisturbed it is of little nuisance or at least one can get used to the smell, but when a pile of pig manure is disturbed and spread across fields, properties adjacent suffer conditions which make their lives almost unbearable. As this occurs from time to time in hot weather, residents are expected to put up with fly nuisance and the impossibility of having the windows of their houses open when the weather is at its warmest. The sickening stench of freshly spread septic poultry or pig slurry defies description.

The owners of these establishments must be made to realise that disposal in the least offensive way is important, that their neighbours are entitled to it and that they must be prepared to spend money on it.

One Speaker at a recent meeting declared that "local authorities have perhaps been too prone to see the difficulties of statutory action and have fought shy of taking action to abate smell nuisances." Another felt so strongly about the offence that he wished to see the Government classify factory farming as an offensive trade. Another declared that local authorities were being enforced to live with outdated legislation which had never envisaged this kind of vile nuisance.

I can only endorse these statements.

NEWTOWN OYSTER FISHERY LTD. - The history of a Clam enterprise.

I am grateful to Mr. C.C. Lucas, Director of the Newtown Oyster Fishery, for the following interesting report on the development of his Clam enterprise :-

"I first learnt of the presence of Clams in Southampton Water during 1960, when biologists from Southampton University asked me to look after a sample laying of these animals at Newtown as part of a comparative growth experiment which they were conducting. They had found that a population of Clams - *Mercenaria* (*Venus*) *mercenaria*, the American Hardshell Clam, had become established - presumably through the disposal of kitchen waste from Atlantic Liners - and was breeding in an area where the heated effluent from Marchwood Generating Station provided summer water temperatures sufficiently high to stimulate spawning. I was pleased to assist this research programme, but thought no more of the matter until the very severe winter of 1962/63 destroyed 99.5% of the oysters with which I had stocked the Newtown River.

I then decided, without much optimism, that it would be worth exploring at Southampton to see whether there were enough Clams at workable densities to form the basis for a commercial fishery. Here, too, chance took a hand, for the very hot summer of 1959 had provided ideal breeding conditions resulting in an explosion of the Clam population: so that at the time of my visit large areas of tidal mudflats proved to have been colonised with Clams just reaching commercial size. Far from being a rare foreigner, Clams - which due to their habit of burrowing into the soil had been protected from the severe weather - were now the commonest animal on this foreshore.

Two obstacles to the establishment of a commercial enterprise remained: firstly, the Closing Order on Southampton Water prohibited the sale of shellfish collected there for human consumption, and secondly there was no existing market for Clams in Europe.

On examining the Closing Order I found that it took the form of a list of prohibited species - a list which did not include Clams since nobody knew they were there at the time of its making. It thus became possible to make special arrangements in the case of Clams, and with the ready assistance of the Public Health Authorities at Southampton and at Newport, and of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, an experimental procedure for relaying Clams at Newtown was adopted. As expected, regular sampling proved that Clams, like other molluscs, would cleanse themselves of bacteriological pollution when laid in clean water, and regulations were accordingly framed under which Clams could be sold provided that they had been relaid at Newtown for a period of at least three weeks.

NEWTOWN OYSTER FISHERY LTD. (continued)

With time and experience techniques have become more sophisticated, and all the Clams sold by my Company now pass through storage tanks supplied with pumped sea-water which is sterilised by ultra-violet light during its circulation, in addition to their initial cleansing period in the Newtown River. The high standard of purity obtained by these methods is consistently confirmed by regular samples, which enable the Medical Officer of Health to provide the Health Certificates required for export consignments.

The way was now open to establishing markets, and after offering samples in London and Paris, my Company made its first small sales in January 1964. Trade with London has grown disappointingly little since its introduction - perhaps because only specialist restaurants are prepared to offer this delicious shellfish on their menu. Trade with France, however, where there is a far greater public demand for shellfish of all kinds, has grown steadily to the point where in the season September 1967 to March 1968 the Company has supplied more than 40 tons to this Market.

All too often the introduction of foreign fauna, whether by accident or design, has produced disastrous consequences. The Clam story is of the arrival of the right animal at exactly the right place and at the right time. Chance could hardly have proved more beneficent in its case."

REMOVAL OF PERSONS IN NEED OF CARE AND ATTENTION.

It was not necessary to invoke the powers contained in Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, during the year.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

It is with pleasure that I again acknowledge the constant goodwill and support of the Chairman and Members of the Council.

I would also record with thanks the longstanding loyal co-operation of Mr. L.J. Lewis, Mr. C.V. Smith and the clerical staff at both the District Office and County Hall.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Miss Brimacombe and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN MILLS

Medical Officer of Health

EAST WIGHT

WATER SUPPLIES

Public water supplies over the whole area are provided by the Isle of Wight River and Water Authority, an authority which is responsible for supplies to the whole Island. During the year no complaints were received by the Public Health Department of the Rural District Council.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

Public conveniences are provided at Bembridge, Brading, Niton and Godshill.

During the year new conveniences were erected at Lane End, Bembridge, and Forelands, Bembridge.

All conveniences are fairly small and in no case is a full-time attendant employed. Maintenance is carried out by two men who undertake this work and carry out other duties in connection with sewer and pumping station maintenance. During the holiday season this necessitated a considerable amount of overtime as the Bembridge conveniences have to be visited morning and mid-evening.

The conveniences have at times been subject to some abuse but no complaints regarding unsatisfactory conditions were received during the year.

In addition to conveniences owned by the Council, arrangements have been made for the public to have use of the conveniences at the Buddle Inn, Niton, and the Camping site at Castle Haven, Niton.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Main sewerage systems are provided at Apse Heath, Brading, Bembridge, Blackgang, Chillerton, Godshill, Niton and Whitwell.

Disposal of sewage

Apse Heath: To small sewage purification works.

Bembridge: Since the new scheme came into operation in 1959, all sewage from the village has discharged by way of the sea outfall at Ethel Point. The holder tank in the Lane End outfall has proved very satisfactory in operation and no further complaints of sewage discharge on to the beach have been confirmed. Despite the absence of complaints to the office, Medical Officer of Health or the Clerk of the Council, there was an amount of publicity in certain quarters of sewage on the beach.

Disposal of sewage (continued)

- Bembridge:** This publicity generally occurred some weeks after pollution was said to have been observed, when it was too late to confirm or otherwise.
- Further extensions of the sewer have been laid by developers at Stone Farm, Bembridge, Lane End Close, Bembridge, and Hayes Estate, Bembridge, and will in due course be taken over by the R.D.C.
- Brading:** Owing to considerable development in the Erading area, the S.D. works in Wall Lane have been giving trouble. These works serve the northern part of the parish and when they were reconstructed some 12 years ago it was realised that owing to site limitations the works would not be capable of much additional loading. During 1965 it became obvious that this increased load was beyond the capacity of the present plant and instructions were given to the Council's consultants to prepare a scheme for the enlargement of the works. The scheme was in course of preparation by the end of 1966. This is for the southern part of the parish and comprises a system discharging to a pumping station at Morton from where sewage is to be pumped to the Sandown/Shanklin sewage disposal plant.
- Blackgang:** Sewage discharges into a tank at the head of the Chine from where it is pumped to a disposal works at some distance from the inhabited area.
- Chillerton:** To settlement tanks and land irrigation system. This functions without trouble but cannot be considered as meeting the demands set by modern standards.
- Godshell:** To sewage disposal works. This plant is approaching the stage when enlargement will have to be considered.
- Niton and Whitwell:** To disposal works.
- Plans for the development of housing estates in this area were approved and the number of houses on these estates, when completed, will result in a 50% overload on the sewage disposal works. The Council's consultants were instructed to investigate the matter and to report on an extension of the disposal works.

Small sewage disposal plants are provided for a number of the Council Housing Estates at :-

Disposal of sewage (continued)

Langbridge, Newchurch
The Firs, "
The Bower, "
Main Road, "
West View, Chale
South View, Chale Green
Dovecotes, Merstone
Newlands, "
Hazely Combe, Arreton
Pagham Place, Rookley
St. George's View, Rookley.

These small plants are desludged at intervals of 6 - 9 months and give rise to very little trouble but it has been found necessary to give increased attention to these plants.

A system of drainage serving a few cottages in Highwood Lane, Rookley, discharges into a settlement tank and thence by means of an effluent drain into a watercourse.

Work on the preparation of a scheme for the sewerage of the Winford area was well advanced by the end of the year.

REFUSE COLLECTION

The refuse collection service continues to function in a satisfactory manner. The service covers the whole district. A weekly collection is given in the parishes of Bembridge and Brading and a fortnightly collection in all other parts of the district.

<u>Number of Vehicles</u>	<u>Mileage</u>	<u>Disposal</u>
1 S & D 35 cub.yd Pakamatic (Bembridge and Brading)	4,192	To Wall Lane tip, Brading.
1 S & D 20 cub.yd Pakamatic (Arreton, Newchurch, Godshill, Witon, Chale & Gatcombe)	9,017	To Bleakdown tip, Godshill.

Bleakdown tip has continued to operate with one fulltime attendant. This tip receives a very large amount of trade and other waste. A small Schmiedag tractor assists levelling on the tip.

During the year the tips in West Wight were closed and all refuse was conveyed to Bleakdown for disposal. This extra intake resulted in placing a work load on the Schmiedag tractor that was beyond its capacity and conditions on the tip became very difficult.

LITTER BASKETS:

Requests for the provision of additional litter baskets still increase and during the holiday period dealing with litter is becoming a serious problem. In a spread out rural area, where there is only a fortnightly refuse collection, very considerable difficulty is experienced in giving the necessary attention to litter baskets. Emptying is carried out to a small degree by local labour.

The growing problem of litter is making heavy demands on these services and the time is approaching when a special service of collection will be necessary during the summer season.

CESSPOOL EMPTYING SERVICE:

The Council do not own a cesspool emptier but hire a machine when required from Ryde, Sandown or Ventnor. A routine service is not in operation but pits are emptied upon application (a) if they have not been emptied within the last 12 months, and (b) if they are overflowing or are likely to overflow in the near future.

As we have to depend on hiring from other authorities, there are times when we have no machine available for urgent work. Delays are therefore unavoidable and although they are kept to a minimum there have been occasions when pits have been awaiting attention for several weeks.

No. of cesspools emptied (cost borne by rate charge)	...	418
" " " " (applicant bearing cost)	...	53

HOSTELS:

W.H.A. Hostel, Whitwell.	Mains water, draindage to cesspool.
	Public refuse collection.

HOUSING:

East and West Wight

Twenty-nine new dwellings were erected by the Council during the year.

Slum Clearance (East and West Wight)

No. of unfit houses demolished	...	1
No. of unfit houses closed	...	7
No. of families rehoused from these unfit houses	...	6

HOUSING (continued)

Improvement Grants

The Rural District Council continued their policy of making Improvement Grants and during the year 30 properties were improved under this scheme.

Assisted House Purchase and Loans to carry out Repairs (East and West Wight)

During 1966 loans were made in respect of the purchase, construction, repairs, improvements or alterations of 53 properties. The total amount paid in this respect was £171,350.

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

No. of licensed caravan sites ... 8

Considerable pressure was brought to bear on one site operator to observe the conditions of his licence. This operator had been in default for several seasons and the Council gave him notice that legal action would be taken if full compliance had not been made by the beginning of the next season.

The summer holiday season showed a continued increase in tented camping. There are two fairly large licensed sites available but quite a number of smaller sites are used within the exemption under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

REGISTRATION OF PREMISES FOR THE SALE OF ICE CREAM

No. of premises registered (East and West Wight) ... 140

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT

No of licensed premises ... 2

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT

	<u>No. of premises registered</u>	<u>No. of persons employed</u>
Offices	22	88
Retail shops	53	168
Wholesale shops, warehouses	-	-
Catering establishments	21	144
Fuel storage depots	-	-

WORK OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

Total number of visits of inspection made	...	2,141
Houses inspected	...	42
Houses reinspected	...	39
Cowstables and dairies	...	-
Food preparing premises	...	71
Meat and other foods inspection	...	129
Drains and sewers	...	342
Water supplies	...	14
Refuse collection	...	121
Various	...	396
New buildings and alterations	...	987

FACTORIES ACT, 1957

Particulars of the administration of the Factories Act, 1957 -
Parts I and VIII administered by the District Council :-

Inspections

For purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections
made by Public Health Inspectors

	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>No. of written Notices</u>	<u>Occupiers prosec- uted</u>
(i) Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	24	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	39	-	-

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FACTORIES ACT, 1957 (continued)

	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>No. of written Notices</u>	<u>Occupiers prosec- uted</u>
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	-	-	-

Cases in which defects were found

(If defects are discovered on the premises on two, three or more separate occasions, they are reckoned as two, three or more cases.)

	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>
Want of cleanliness (Section 1)	2	2
Sanitary conveniences unsuitable or defective:	1	1

PART VIII of the Act (Outwork)

Sections 110 and 111 ... Nil.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Food Contamination

The following cases were observed :-

1. Brandling worms (earth worms) in milk

In this case, a number of live worms 4" - 5" long were found in pasteurised milk. The worms gained access to the milk by climbing to the underside of the lid of the churn while the milk stood in the retailers' premises awaiting delivery. Had the relevant requirements of the Milk and Dairies Order been observed, this contamination would not have occurred. Action was taken by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries to prevent a recurrence.

2. Slugs in peas

A number of dead slugs were found in a batch of dried peas. The matter was taken up with the packers.

Food Contamination (continued)

3. Mould in cake

4. Mould in meat-pie

These cases arose as a result of too long a storage period in the retailer's premises. More attention to stock rotation was advised.

5. Cigarette end in bread

No reasonable explanation was offered.

The Council issued strong warnings in each of these cases but no prosecutions were instituted.

WEST WIGHT

WATER SUPPLIES

The rainfall for the year was 41.48 inches, and the average water consumption for the West Wight area was 661,000 gallons per day. 187 samples of water supplies were examined for bacteriological analysis, of which 14 were classified as unsatisfactory.

The extension or improvement of 1,000 lin. yards of mains was carried out during the year.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

Public Conveniences are provided at Freshwater Bay, Freshwater (2), Totland, Totland Bay, Colwell and Alum Bay (by arrangement with the Needles Hotel). All the conveniences are maintained by one full-time attendant.

Public Conveniences (chemical disposal type) are provided at Compton Bay. These are maintained by a part time attendant.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Main sewerage systems are provided at Freshwater, Totland, Colwell Bay, Yarmouth, Shorwell, Brighstone and Calbourne.

Disposal of sewage

Freshwater - 18" dia. sea outfall at Norton, extending 700 feet out from shore. (including Monks area)

Yarmouth - Sea outfall discharging 500 feet from shore near end of Yarmouth Pier.

6" diameter sea outfall taking the drainage of 4 dwellings at top of High Street.

Totland - 12" diameter sea outfall extending 1,400 feet out from shore.

Shorwell - To sewage disposal works with purification by settlement tanks and aeration beds.

Brighstone - ditto.

Calbourne - ditto.

Bouldnor area ditto.
(Shalfleet parish)

Disposal of Sewage (continued)

Brook - By settlement tank (anaerobic treatment)
(former Estate
sewer)

Newtown - To sewage disposal works with purification by
(old Vicarage settlement tanks and aeration beds.
Estate)

Small sewage purification plants

There is a small sewage purification plant in Shalfleet Village taking the drainage of some 20 Council houses and private properties.

Small sewage purification plants are provided at Porchfield, Thorley and Newbridge Housing Estates, and there is a small sewage purification plant at Alum Bay dealing with the drainage of the Public Conveniences, the Needles Hotel and Tea Rooms.

A scheme for the sewerage of Newbridge Village is under active consideration.

The Council's consulting engineers are preparing a report on the modernisation of the system of sewage disposal in the parishes of Freshwater and Totland and the feasibility of linking the two systems to one point of discharge. The Totland sewer sea outfall is over 70 years old and is becoming increasingly costly to maintain. Divers were employed in carrying out repairs to the Totland outfall before the start of the holiday season.

Estate Sewers taken over by the Council

Madeira Lane, Colwell (layout for 22 dwellings)
Northfield Estate, Church Hill, Totland (4 dwellings)
Galley Lane, Brighstone.

REFUSE COLLECTION

There is a weekly collection of refuse in the West Wight, excepting in the parishes of Shorwell, Calbourne and Shalfleet, where a fortnightly collection is made.

Refuse was deposited by controlled tipping on the land reclamation area on the East bank of the River Yar estuary at Yarmouth and in the disused clay pits near Golden Hill, Freshwater, until mid-summer when

/cont....

Refuse Collection (continued)

these tips were closed and the refuse taken to the central refuse tip at Bleakdown near Godshill, fifteen miles distant from the collecting area. This has inevitably increased the cost of refuse collection but removes the cause for complaints and affords better control of the refuse disposal in an isolated area. It seems that no alternative site for refuse disposal can be found in the West Wight where so much of the countryside has a high scenic value and the public footpaths much used by holiday makers, give access to or overlook the most isolated parts of the countryside. The refuse disposal site at Churchills Quarry, Shalfleet continues in use to a limited extent.

<u>Vehicles</u>	<u>Mileage</u>	<u>Disposal of refuse</u>
Freshwater, Totland and Yarmouth -		(Yarmouth land reclamation area, and
S & D 25 cub.yd.Pakamatic	7,804	(Copse Lane, Freshwater
S & D 35 cub.yd.Pakamatic	6,812	((until mid-summer)
(May - December, 1966)		(Bleakdown.
<u>Agricultural Parishes</u>		(Churchills Quarry,
S & D 20 cub.yd.Pakamatic	11,500	(Shalfleet
	(Estimated)	(Bleakdown.

CESSPOOL EMPTYING SERVICE:

Premises are served by a cesspool emptying lorry on hire from Ryde Borough and Ventnor Urban District Council.

Total number of cesspools or septic tanks cleansed - 341

HOSTELS

Weston Manor, Totland:	Mains water supply. Main drainage. Weekly collection of refuse.
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HOUSING

East and West Wight

No. of new dwellings erected by the Council during the year:	29
No. of private houses erected:	140
No. of plans deposited and reported upon by the Council:	720

Slum Clearance

See East Wight report.

Assisted house purchase and loans to carry out repairs

See East Wight report.

Improvement Grants

During the year 21 properties in the West Wight were improved under the Improvement Grant Scheme.

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

No. of caravan sites licensed in the West Wight:	8
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COAST PROTECTION ACT

Totland Bay - The scheme for protection of some 860 yards of coast line and improvements to the existing sea wall of Totland Pier were completed by the end of the year.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT

	<u>No. of premises registered</u>	<u>No. of persons employed</u>
Offices	30	112
Retail shops	71	277
Wholesale shops, warehouses	-	-
Catering establishments	31	235
Fuel storage depots	1	4

WORK OF PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Total number of visits of inspection made - 1,716

Houses inspected	40
Houses reinspected	36
Cowstables and dairies	2
Food preparation premises	28
Meat and other foods inspection	24
Drains and sewers	360
Water supplies	6
Refuse collection	300
Various	320
New buildings & alterations	600

Mr. C.V. Smith, Public Health Inspector and Surveyor, suffered a serious illness in July, requiring surgical treatment, and was unable to return to work until November. Urgent matters have been dealt with by Mr. Lewis (East Wight) and a temporary assistant.

FACTORIES ACT

Particulars of the administration of the Factories Act, 1937, Parts I and VIII administered by the District Council :-

Inspections (Part I of the Act)

For purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

	<u>No. on Register</u>	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>No. of written notices</u>	<u>Occupiers prosecuted</u>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by local authorities:	46	6	1	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by local authority:	20	2	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by local authority (excluding out-workers premises)	-	-	-	-

FACTORIES ACT (continued)

Cases in which defects were found

(If defects are discovered on the premises on two, three or more separate occasions, they are reckoned as two, three or more cases.)

	<u>No. of cases in which defects were found</u>	
	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>
Want of cleanliness (Sect.1)	1	1
Ineffective drainage of floors (Sect.6)	-	-
Sanitary conveniences unsuitable or defective (Sect.7)	2	2

RODENT CONTROL

East and West Wight

514 premises were treated during the year, the Rodent Operator making 1,219 visits. The annual testing and treatment of the Council's sewers was carried out and the spraying of refuse tips. No infestations were found.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Amount of unsound food dealt with during the year :-

Canned meat - 12 lbs.

